

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 06929 111320Z

47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 /054 W

----- 074658

O R 111214Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7102

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 6929

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT' SP

SUBJECT: SUAREZ' REFORM PROGRAM

REF: MADRID 6924

1. PRIME MINISTER SUAREZ AS USUAL SPOKE IN GOOD STYLE
LAST NIGHT, ALTHOUGH HE WAS SOMEWHAT NERVOUS AT THE OUTSET.
HE DESCRIBED GENERALLY THE PARLIAMENTARY REFORM PROGRAM
BUT DID NOT ANNOUNCE THE SPECIFICS, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE
OF THE NICETIES OF THE PRESENTATION TO THE CORTES AND
NATIONAL COUNCIL (THE LATTER IS TO MEET IMMEDIATELY).
THIS LACK OF SPECIFICS SPARKED SOME CRITICISM (SEE SEPTTEL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MADRID 06929 111320Z

FOR FIRST REACTIONS) BUT THE INFORMATION MINISTER WILL

ANNOUNCE THE PROPOSAL TODAY, SO THAT ATTENTION SHOULD PRESUMABLY TURN TO THE SPECIFICS OF THE DRAFT WHICH SHOULD RUN ALONG THE LINES REPORTED IN REFTEL.

2. FBIS HAS TRANSLATED THE SPEECH, MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF WHICH FOLLOW:

-- SUAREZ AGAIN EMPHASIZED THAT THE GOAL WAS THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FUNCTIONING DEMOCRACY IN WHICH THE SOVEREIGNTY RESTED WITH THE PEOPLE AND THEREFORE THE NECESSITY OF ACCOMMODATING THE SPANISH LEGAL FRAMEWORK TO THE REALITY OF THE COUNTRY.

-- HE HIGHLIGHTED CONTACTS WITH "MANY OF THE MORE SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL GROUPS" FROM RIGHT, CENTER OR LEFT, AND SAID THE MOMENT DEMANDS ACTION IN WHICH THE SPANISH PEOPLE LEGITIMIZE WITH THEIR VOTE THOSE WHO ASPIRE TO BE THE COUNTRY'S REPRESENTATIVES.

-- HE DESCRIBED THE LAW AS A SIMPLE, REALISTIC DRAFT WHICH WILL TAKE THE DRAMA AND FICTION OUT OF POLITICS THROUGH ELECTIONS TO A BICAMERAL LEGISLATURE BY DIRECT, SECRET AND UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE, THE KEY POINT (LEAVING THE INITIATIVE ON CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM TO THE LOWER HOUSE AND THE EXECUTIVE).

-- SUAREZ NOTED THAT THE DRAFT PROCEEDS FROM THE LEGAL SETUP IN FORCE, MODIFYING SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE CONSTITUTION. AFTER THE PEOPLE SPEAK, OTHER MAJOR POLITICAL PROBLEMS CAN BE SOLVED WITH THE AUTHORITY GRANTED BY THE ELECTORATE, I.E., REGIONAL ISSUES, THE "FINAL SINDICAL REFORM," THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE EXECUTIVE TO THE LEGISLATIVE CHAMBERS, ETC.

-- SUAREZ ALSO DEVOTED SOME ATTENTION TO THE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF THE COUNTRY, NOTING THAT HE DID NOT HAVE A MAGIC FORMULA CAPABLE OF SOLVING ALL THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS SIMULTANEOUSLY. HE PROMISED FURTHER ECONOMIC MEASURES IN SHORT ORDER.

-- SUAREZ REAFFIRMED THE PLEDGE TO HOLD GENERAL ELECTIONS FOR THE NEW PARLIAMENT "AS SOON AS POSSIBLE" AND IN ANY CASE BY JUNE OF 1977, ADDING ELSEWHERE THE NECESSITY TO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MADRID 06929 111320Z

CARRY OUT RAPIDLY THE POLITICAL REFORM--A POINT OBVIOUSLY MEANT FOR CORTES' EARS. IN SO DOING, SUAREZ LINKED RAPID POLITICAL REFORM WITH THE NATION'S ABILITY TO DEAL WITH OTHER SERIOUS PROBLEMS, E.G., ECONOMIC, AND PROMISED TO MAINTAIN PUBLIC ORDER.
EATON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRIME MINISTER, GOVERNMENT REFORM, POLICIES, SPEECHES, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MADRID06929
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760343-1081
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760970/aaaachxe.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MADRID 6924
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <11 AUG 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SUAREZ' REFORM PROGRAM
TAGS: PINT, SP, (SUAREZ GONZALES, ADOLFO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006